

GSA EC/GA Meeting Minutes
November 8, 2022
5:30 pm - 7:30pm PST (KL 232)

This meeting was moderated by GSA President Edgar Perez Lopez. Minutes of the meeting have been prepared by GSA Internal Communications Officer, Md Mehdi Masud with necessary revision(s) from President Edgar, External Vice President Arabi Seshappan and Internal Vice President Lorenzo Booth.

Members of Executive Council in Attendance

1. President - Edgar Perez Lopez
2. External Vice President - Arabi Seshappan
3. Internal Vice President - Lorenzo Booth
4. Internal Communications Officer - Md. Mehdi Masud
5. Treasurer - Aneelman Brar
6. Public Relations / Community Outreach Officer - Destina Bermejo
7. Social Media and Graphics Design Officer - Maia Powell
8. Solidarity Officer - Jarrod Brown Jr.

Graduate Students in Attendance

Albert, Shayna, Jordan, Kunle

Welcome by the GSA President

GSA president Edgar welcomed all the participants of this meeting and introduced the meeting agenda with all. Then the meeting discussion began.

UC Merced Student Concerns/Comments/News

Albert:

Addressed awareness for the strike. Strike from Monday. Grad students will be receiving multiple emails with instructions.

Shayna:

Strike participants (who signed up) are eligible for \$400 compensation. Students who sign up for strike but go for TA classes – will not be eligible to get payment.

TedX conference is approved (to be held in April 2023). Requested from GSA fund.

Destina:

New grad students need a handy resource link or booklet (what, where to, how to, etc).

Updates from the GSA Executive Council

President - Edgar Perez Lopez

- Dean Hratchian meeting updates: planning with new grad students. New domestic students will be receiving \$10k in addition with the summer-brige program.
- UC Merced event request form: food items for events. We should try to avoid glass bottles. Event should be declared one month before.
- Graddiv has laptop lending program.

External Vice President - Arabi Seshappan

- Past weekend had grad summit for UCGPC
- Updated the UCGPC agenda, describing summaries of different talks. Flash mentorship standard.
- If anyone wants to be involved for student mental health improvement? (paid position)
- Will be posting those soon.

Internal Vice President - Lorenzo Booth

- Updates for GSA EC vacant positions. Nominated students will be receiving emails by this week. Hopefully the positions will be filled by next week. New EC members are supposed to be present from next GSA meeting.
- DA meeting updates. New members: public health,QSB.

Legislative Affairs Officer - vacant

Academic Affairs Officer - vacant

Internal Communications Officer - Md. Mehdi Masud

- GSA movie night 10/31 flier and email to grad students
- Uploading EC/GA meeting agenda+minutes and DA meeting minutes to GSA website
- Discussion and lunch with Dead Hrnt 11/07. New housing for grad students and post-doc (possibly from Fall 2023), near Mckee road.

International Affairs Officer – Arya Karappilly Rajan (absent, no update)

Climate, Diversity, and Equity Officer - Koton Babaguchi (absent, sent updates through box link)

- Update the CCCAE meeting
- A DEI survey and possible event idea

Solidarity Officer - Jarrod Brown Jr.

- Union updates (UAW Monthly Meeting 10/14)
- Agreed with Albart and Shayna for the strike.

Undocumented Affairs Officer - Yulissa Perez Rojas

- Thank you everyone that filled out the “Response to 2022 DACA Decision” Form
- With the 10 responses we created an instagram post (Go check it out)
- Next project, I am working with Koto to create a DEI survey for grad students.

Treasurer - Aneelman Brar

- Discuss guidelines for sponsored and GSO funds- Do we want to focus entirely on graduate students or Merced community.
- Discuss the new form for ordering or event request.
- Announced travel awards on 11/07/2022

Public Relations / Community Outreach Officer - Destina Bermejo

- GSA movie night 10/31
- Toloma 5K 11/12. Hoping to volunteer.
- Gradsgiving. Need Aneelman to help.
- DEI workshop (may be next semester): with Arabi and Koto.
 - Events for next semester overall

Social Media and Graphics Design Officer - Maia Powell

- Shirt design vote.

Transformational Impact Fund Budget Review

- We can't finalize the budget now
- Transportation: need to ask from financial aid
- Recreation tour: we can discuss
- Stipends for EC and GA members: pending
- Meeting where students don't need to submit abstract? Not finalized

Regarding Filling up International Affairs Officer's Post:

- 6 votes, to fill up with a new student.
- Need to send an email from gsa email (for resignation)

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM

Next EC meeting: 12/06/2022